91-221

No. 91-

SEP 4 1991

In The

Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1991

WALTER W. FISCHER,

Petitioner,

V.

CITY OF DOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE,

#### AND

HEIRS OF SIMON JANETOS, ELIZABETH (DROUIN)
JANETOS, CHRISTINE (JANETOS) McLAIN, EVELYN
JANETOS, JOHN JANETOS, COSTAS JANETOS, PETER
S. JANETOS, DION JANETOS, NICHOLAS JANETOS,
ANGELINE (JANETOS) BANAS, EDWARD MURPHY AND
AHN MURPHY

Respondents.

Petition For Writ of Certiorari To the Supreme Court of the State of New Hampshire

#### BRIEF IN OPPOSITION

Patti Blanchette
Boynton, Waldron, Doleac,
Woodman & Scott, P.A.
Counsel of Record for
Respondent,
City of Dover, N.H.
82 Court Street
Portsmouth, NH 03801
(603) 436-4010

Of Counsel:

Scott E. Woodman, Esquire 288 Central Avenue Dover, NH 03820 (603)742-6775



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# TABLE OF AUTHORITIES CITED

## CASES

Cook County v. Malysa, 39 Ill. 2d 376, 235 NE 2d 598 (1968)



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Petition For Writ of Certiorari To The Supreme Court Of the State of New Hampshire

#### BRIEF IN OPPOSITION

#### ORDERS BELOW

The final opinion of the Supreme

Court of the State of New Hampshire (A.la

of Appendix to Petitioner's Petition) is not yet reported. The order of the Superior Court of New Hampshire (A.2a - A.4a of Appendix to Petitioner's Petition) is not reported.

#### JURISDICTIONAL STATEMENT

The judgment of the Superior Court of New Hampshire which was affirmed by the final decision of the Supreme Court of New Hampshire which was entered on May 17, 1991, has been accorded to the Petitioner and satisfied and, as a result, your Respondent respectfully submits that this Honorable Court does not have jurisdiction to review this matter.

#### STATEMENT OF THE CASE

Pursuant to the affirmance by the

Supreme Court of New Hampshire of the New

Hampshire Superior Court's Order, the

Petitioner, by way of his attorney's

letter of June 25, 1991 (A-1), sought payment of the Court's judgment which was in the amount of \$7,758.77 plus interest at the rate of 10% from the date of demand pursuant to the Court's Order. Together with a letter from the Respondent, City of Dover's City Attorney Scott E. Woodman, dated July 22, 1991 (A-3), a check in the amount of \$10,000.85 was delivered directly to the Petitioner in accordance with his attorney's request in full payment of the Court's judgment. This check was accepted by the Petitioner and was cashed on July 29, 1991 (A-5, A-6). Payment of the Court's judgment was accorded to the Petitioner, accepted by the Petitioner and has now been satisfied in full.

#### ARGUMENT

1. THE PETITIONER IS BARRED FROM
PURSUING THE INSTANT APPEAL WHERE THE
PETITIONER HAS SOUGHT AND ACCEPTED
PAYMENT IN FULL OF THE JUDGMENT OF
THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
WHICH WAS AFFIRMED BY THE FINAL
DECISION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW
HAMPSHIRE.

By Order of the New Hampshire
Superior Court dated August 3, 1990,
judgment was entered for Petitioner in
the amount of \$7,758.77 plus interest at
the New Hampshire statutory rate of 10%
from the date of demand by the Petitioner
which was February 12, 1987. The
Petitioner was not satisfied with the
result and appealed said decision of the
Superior Court to the State of New
Hampshire Supreme Court.

The State of New Hampshire Supreme

Court affirmed the Superior Court's Order

by its decision dated May 17, 1991.

Subsequent to this action by the State

Supreme Court, by letter of the Petitioner's attorney dated June 25, 1991, the Petitioner sought payment of the Court's judgment. On July 22, 1991, the Respondent, City of Dover, N.H., delivered to the Petitioner a check dated July 19, 1991 in the amount requested by the Petitioner's attorney The Petitioner accepted this check and cashed it on July 29, 1991. Subsequent to accepting this check in payment of the Court's judgment, the Petitioner now seeks to have this Honorable Court review the issues which were considered by the New Hampshire Supreme Court before rendering its judgment.

It is a well-established, general rule in civil cases that when a judgment has been voluntarily paid or its benefits accepted, the questions become moot and

an appeal may not be pursued. <u>Cook</u>

<u>County v. Malysa</u>, 39Ill. 2d 376, 235 NE

2d 598 (1968).

### CONCLUSION

Based upon the foregoing points of fact and law, the Petitioner is barred from pursuing any appeal of the decision of the State of New Hampshire Supreme Court dated May 17, 1991, and, consequently, his petition for Certiorari is unwarranted and should be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

PATTI BLANCHETTE
BOYNTON, WALDRON,
DOLEAC,
WOODMAN & SCOTT, P.A.
82 Court Street
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Counsel for Respondent City of Dover, N.H.

## APPENDIX

# HOLLAND, DONOVAN, BECKETT, WELCH & HERMANS PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

151 WATER STREET

P.O. BOX 1090

EXETER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03833-1090

TELEPHONE 603-772-5956

FAX # 1-603-778-1434

EVERETT P. HOLLAND JOHN W. PERKINS

ROBERT B. DONOVAN (1902 -1973)

WILLIAM H. M. BECKETT

THOMAS D. WELCH, JR.

STEPHEN G. HERMANS

C. JOSEPH GOULD

June 25, 1991

Scott E. Woodman, Esquire

42 Main Street

Box 70

Dover, NH 03820

Re: Fischer v. City of Dover

Dear Scott:

Please have the City of Dover pay

Mr. Fischer the amount of the judgment, \$7,758.77, plus 10% interest from the date of demand which was February 12, 1987. (See copy of Court Order dated August 3, 1990.)

I calculate the interest to be \$2,242.08 to July 1, 1991.

Accordingly, if you agree with my calculation, please have the City make a check payable to Walter W. Fischer in the total amount of \$10,000.85 and send it to him directly to 542 Central Avenue,

Dover, New Hampshire 03820 and sending me a copy of the letter and check for my files. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

/S/ William H.M. Beckett

William H.M. Beckett

WHMB/rmt

F19/F3

cc: Mr. Walter W. Fischer

SCOTT E. WOODMAN

288 Central Avenue

City Attorney

Dover, N.H. 03820

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
LEGAL DIVISION

July 22, 1991

Mr. Walter W. Fischer

542 Central Avenue

Dover, NH 03820

RE: Fischer v. City of Dover

Dear Mr. Fischer:

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Please find enclosed a City of Dover check in the amount of \$10,000.85 in payment of the judgment of the Superior Court which was recently affirmed by order of the Supreme Court on May 17, 1991.

The amount of this check is consistent with your attorney's calculations as set

forth in his letter to me of June 25, 1991, and your acceptance of this check will bring this dispute to a close.

Very truly yours,

/S/ Scott E. Woodman

Scott E. Woodman

City Attorney

SEW/jcp

Enclosure

Cc: David B. Wright, City Manger

Jeff Harrington, Finance Director

William H.M. Beckett, Esquire

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